
**Architectural and Historical Evaluation of the
Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center Complex
Pythian Road, Sonoma County, California**

Vicki R. Beard, M.A./RPA

December 2006



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ABSTRACT

Tom Origer & Associates completed an architectural and historical evaluation for the Los Guilicos Long Range Plan being prepared by the County of Sonoma. This work was completed under contract no. 2317 between Tom Origer & Associates and the County of Sonoma. The Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center is located east of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County California, and comprises buildings from the late nineteenth to the early twenty-first century. This study focused on the 17 buildings on the Los Guilicos Campus that are older than 45 years. Evaluation of the Los Guilicos Campus took into consideration eligibility criteria for both the California Register of Historical Resources and the National Register of Historic Places.

As part of this study, historical research was conducted at the Sonoma County Recorder's Office, the office of the County Assessor, the History Annex at the Sonoma County Library, the California State Archives, and other research facilities. Local historical groups were consulted, and efforts were made to contact individuals with knowledge of the area. Buildings were examined and photodocumented as part of the evaluation, and appropriate records were completed for submission to the City of Rohnert Park.

The Hood House is listed on the National Register of Historic Place (and therefore is eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources) based on its association with the Knights of Pythias from 1924 to 1944. This study finds that four additional buildings appear eligible for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources and the National Register of Historic Places. These buildings are part of the California Pythian Home complex and include the kitchen/dining hall, Casa Mañana, Primera, and the bell tower constructed in 1924, 1925, 1927, and 1938, respectively.

The remaining 12 buildings under evaluation do not appear eligible for inclusion on the California Register or National Register. Documentation pertaining to this study is on file at the offices of Tom Origer & Associates (File No. 06-92BE).

Synopsis

Project: Los Guilicos Long Range Plan
Location: Sonoma Highway and Pythian Road, Sonoma County
Quadrangle: Kenwood, California 7.5' series
Study Type: Evaluation
Scope: Property specific
Findings: Five of 17 buildings evaluated appear eligible for state and federal registers

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INTRODUCTION

Under contract no. 2317 with the County of Sonoma, Tom Origer & Associates completed an architectural/historical evaluation of buildings at the Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center as part of the Los Guilicos Long Range Plan. This study focused on the part of the Los Guilicos Campus formerly known as the Los Guilicos School for Girls, which included buildings constructed between 1898 and about 1965. As shown in Figure 1, the Los Guilicos Campus is located off of Highway 12, east of Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, California.

During the study, buildings were examined and photographed, and their architectural integrity and physical contexts were noted. Buildings were evaluated as individual properties and as a complex to determine their potential eligibility for both the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) and the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The results of the study are presented in this report and on the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) forms provided in Appendix A. Documentation pertaining to the study is on file at Tom Origer & Associates (File No. 06-92BE).

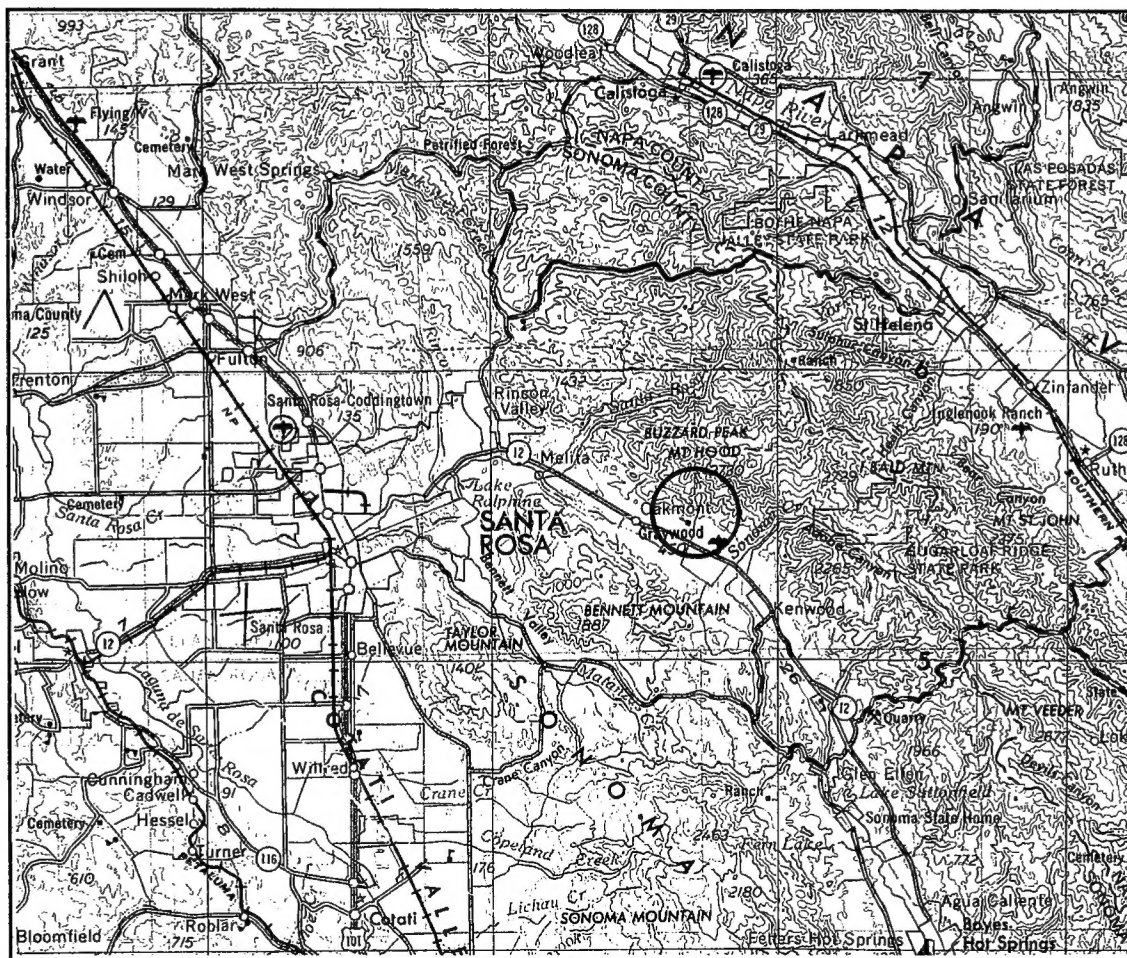


Figure 1. Project vicinity (adapted from the 1970 Santa Rosa 1:250,000-scale USGS map).

REGULATORY CONTEXT

To facilitate future planning for the Los Guilicos Campus, this study adhered to requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). These acts require that historic properties be considered as part of the environmental review process. This is accomplished by an inventory of resources within a study area and by assessing the potential that cultural resources could be affected by development.

Significance Criteria-CEQA

Under CEQA, when a project might affect a cultural resource (i.e., site, building, structure, object, or district) the project proponent is required to conduct an assessment to determine whether the effect may be one that is significant. Consequently, it is necessary to determine the importance of resources that could be affected. The importance of a resource is measured in terms of criteria for inclusion on the California Register of Historical Resources (Public Resources Code §5024.1; Title 14 CCR, §4850.3) listed below. A resource may be important if it meets any one of the criteria below, or if it is already listed on the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register of historical resources.

An important historical resource is one which:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history.
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

Significance Criteria-Section 106

Compliance with Section 106 requires that agencies make an effort to identify historic properties that may be affected by a project, and gather information to evaluate the property's eligibility for inclusion in the National Register. Under Section 106 the importance of an identified historic property is evaluated in terms of National Register criteria put forth in 36CFR60, as follows:

The quality of significance is present in properties that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinct characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) suggests that all resources over 45 years old be recorded for inclusion in the OHP filing system (OHP 1995:2), although professional judgement is urged in determining whether a resource warrants documentation.

STUDY PROCEDURES

Archival Research

Initial archival research included an examination of the library and files of Tom Origer & Associates and a review of reports and records on file at the Northwest Information Center, Sonoma State University. This search found that the Hood Mansion, one of the campus buildings, is listed on the National Register and the California Register. None of the other campus buildings are currently listed on the federal, state, or local listings of historical resources (OHP 2006).

Research was also conducted at the Sonoma County Assessor's Office, Sonoma County Recorder's Office (SCRO), the History Annex of the Sonoma County Library, the California State Archives, and the California State Library. Research results are presented in the Historical Overview and Historic Contexts sections of the report.

Field Survey

All older buildings on the Los Guilicos Campus were examined and photodocumented during the field phase of the study. Descriptions of these buildings are provided in the Property Descriptions section of the report. Additional documentation is provided in Appendix A.

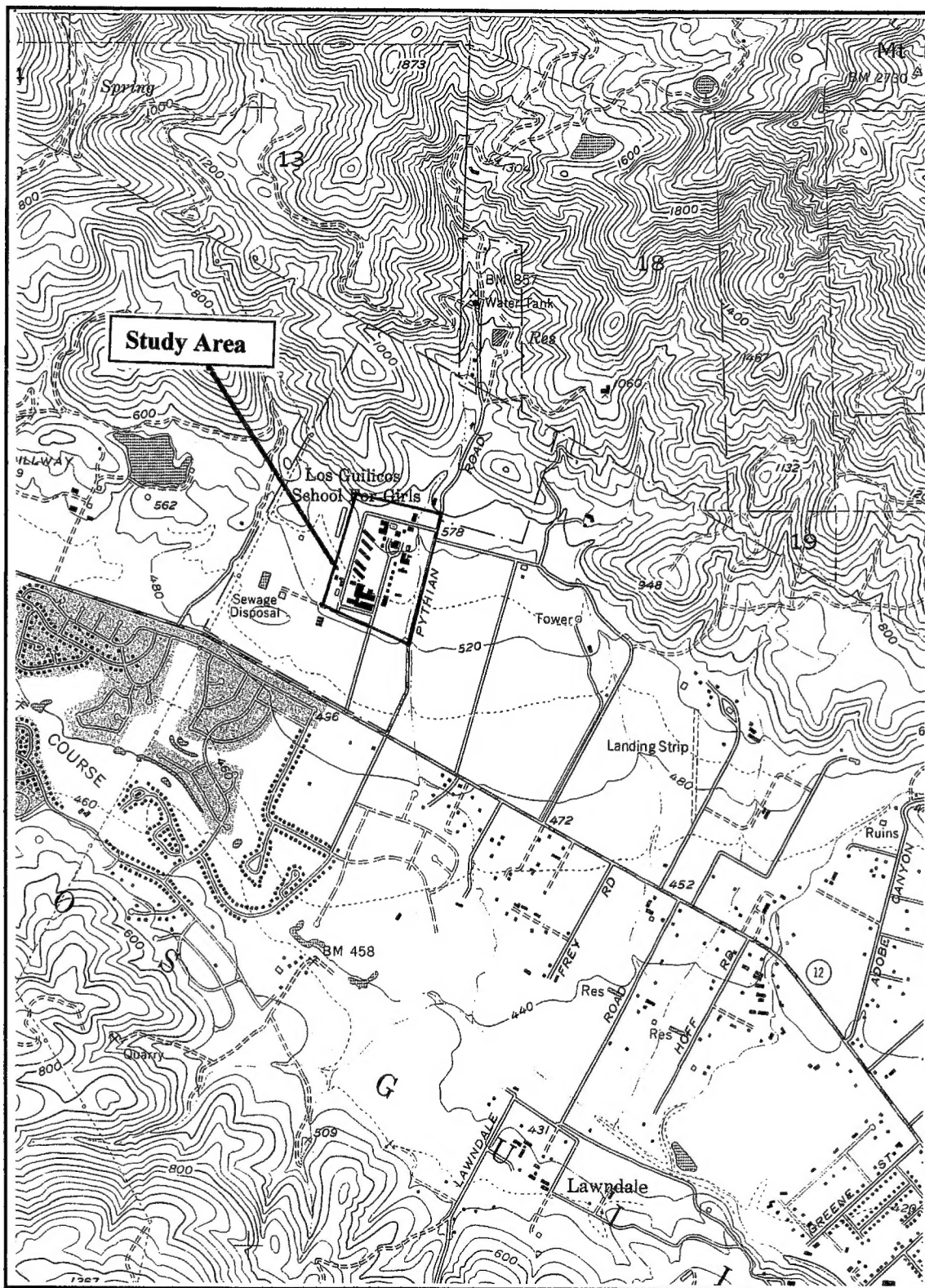


Figure 2. Location of the Los Guilicos Campus (adapted from the 1980 USGS Kenwood Map).

HISTORICAL SETTING

Los Guilicos Rancho

The Los Guilicos Rancho was granted to Juan (John) Wilson in 1839. Wilson, a sea captain from Scotland, married the widow, Ramona Carrillo de Pacheco, of the prestigious San Diego Carrillo family. The Wilson's resided in an adobe near Sonoma Creek, and raised cattle on their 13,330-acre rancho until 1850, when it was purchased by William Hood and William Pettit. Shortly after that, Hood took full ownership, and it was to him that the U.S. Lands Commission conveyed the grant patent in 1866. In the years preceding 1866, Hood and his wife, Eliza, were plagued with financial problems, and in 1868, the majority of the rancho lands were sold to pay off notes held in Hood's name. They then focused on raising horses, fruit and grain production, and established the Los Guilicos Winery. Reportedly, a three-story, stone winery, a wine cellar, and a distillery were built on the property circa 1861 (Hoover, Rensch, and Abeloe 1966:536).

At the turn of the 20th century, the property was in the hands of F.S. Wensinger, a real estate broker out of San Francisco. It was purchased by U.S. Senator Thomas Kearns of Utah and used as a retreat from 1905 to 1918 (Buhler 1997:8-6).

California Pythian Home

In 1924, the Knights of Pythias bought the Hood property to use as a retirement home for its older members. The Knights of Pythias is a fraternal organization founded in 1864 by Justus Henry Rathbone and others to promote the principals of friendship, charity, and benevolence. The Washington, D.C. based order followed the fundamental tenants of tolerance in religion, obedience to law, and loyalty to government. The first California lodge of Pythians was organized in San Francisco in 1869, and the organization reached its peak in 1923 with over 31,000 members and 210 lodges in the state (Kennedy 1904:371-372, cited in Bransgrove 2002)

The Pythian committee selecting the retirement home location seemed charged with a near holy task and pleased with their choice of the Los Guilicos site:

In the selection of our fraternal home we must reckon with the centuries of a vast future. No ordinary, no perfunctory selection would suffice. Our requirements demand quantities of quality and in the glorious acreage herein presented we feel with all the ties that bind us and make of each Pythian a brother, that our Order shall attain a home of everlasting superiority, of eternal fitness [Jayne-Weaver and Wood 1925:201].

In addition to the Hood House and a few other buildings (mostly agricultural outbuildings), when the Knights of Pythias bought the property they acquired 36.3 acres of two and three year old prunes, 14.9 acres of three and four year old peaches and apricots, 102.9 acres of full

bearing Zinfalden and Alacante Bouche vineyard, and 162.5 acres of hay and grain. (Jayne-Weaver and Wood 1925:201).

The Pythians built a one-story kitchen and dining room just behind the Hood House in 1924, and two dormitories were built nearby in 1925 and 1927. Located not far from the house was land dedicated as a cemetery for Knights of Pythias members (Buhler 1997).

The 1930 census lists 61 "guests" at the Pythian Home, the Superintendent, Noah Grider, and his wife, and eight employees ranging from nutritionist to janitor (U.S. Bureau of Census 1930). As a benevolent organization, the Knights of Pythias also took in orphans, and six of the guests enumerated in 1930 were under the age of 18.

The California Pythian Home served the needs of its elder members for nearly 20 years; but having reached its zenith during the 1920s, the order lost some 550,000 members nationwide by 1940 (Bransgrove 2002), and the need for retirement homes lessened. In 1943, the Knights of Pythias moved its residents from the California Pythian Home, and leased the property to Sonoma County for use as a juvenile home. The County bought the property outright the following year.

California School for Girls

The former Pythian Home became the California School for Girls in 1943. A brief history of the facility in the files of the California Youth Authority contained this description:

The Youth Authority was fortunate in being able to lease, in the late summer of 1943, the Pythian Old People's Home located in the Valley of the Moon in Sonoma County. The site, comprising 420 acres, was once part of the old Los Guilicos [sic] Spanish Grant of 19,000 acres. Facilities at the Old People's Home included the original ranch home, built in 1858, two dormitories, a dining room and kitchen built in 1926, and a few auxiliary and farm buildings. All of these buildings were in fairly good condition and the dormitories were well adapted for usage for a training school program [Anonymous 1949]

Between 1943 and 1949, the school had beds for 100 to 115 girls in the former Pythian dormitories. In the late 1940s plans for modern facilities were enacted, and the State Department of Public Works-Division of Architecture contracted with San Francisco architects, Harry A. Thomsen and Aleck L. Wilson. Included in the plans were administration and detention buildings, a hospital, laundry, kitchen and dining room, dormitories, and cottages. Each of the five new dormitories had 40 rooms, a living area, supervisor's station, communal bathing and toilet rooms, and a laundry room. Construction of the new facility began in 1950 and was completed in 1954.

During the 1970s, Los Guilicos was converted to a boy's facility. Sonoma County has focused its youth delinquency and delinquency prevention programs at Los Guilicos, and

recently constructed a new, 140,000-square-foot Juvenile Detention Facility adjacent to the former girl's school buildings. At present, the older buildings are vacant except for a few of the classrooms and recreation facilities. Hood House is a repository for some of the county's historical records.

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Settlement, 1849 to 1890

Northern California settlement by Euroamericans dates to the mid to late 19th century with the founding of a Russian colony on the present-day Sonoma County coast and the Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma. As Spain, and later Mexico, struggled to keep a toe-hold on this region, many land grants were made to encourage a more people to move into the area. Among the first were several members San Diego's Carrillo family, some of whom were married to American men newly converted to Mexican citizenship. Among those arriving in this area was Scots sea captain, John Wilson and his Californio wife, Ramona Carrillo de Pacheco de Wilson, who were granted the Los Guilicos rancho in 1839. The expansive Mexican ranchos, often with but a small adobe house and a few outbuildings, were coveted by American travelers. After gold was discovered in 1848 and America wrested California from Mexico, rancho lands were overrun with squatters and the original grantees often lost large portions of their lands.

The influx of settlers after 1849 created primarily an agricultural region. Cattle, dairy farming, and related pursuits were chief economic pursuits, as was logging. Over time, emphasis on particular products changed but the region has retained its agrarian way of life..

Resources Associated with Settlement. Enduring resources associated with settlement include homesteads/farmsteads and support buildings and structures, designed and/or altered landscapes, roads, water storage and conveyance structures, and fences.

Fraternal Societies, 1820 to 1950

In general, fraternal societies are considered groups of people with common interests, organized to provide social opportunities for members; provide members with such benefits as life, accident, and health insurance; or to help their communities. Membership is usually by invitation only, and most often is restricted to men (although some have auxiliary groups for wives and children). There are a few women's societies. Their origins are traced to 16th-century English laborers who formed "friendly societies" to help when members were sick or died.

Many fraternal organizations are modeled after the Freemasons, and are European in origin. Among the first to arrive the United States were the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of Druids, and the Ancient Order of Foresters, which were introduced in 1819, about 1830, and 1832, respectively. The first society to originate in the States was the

Improved Order of Red Men, established in 1833. The Knights of Pythias formed in Washington D.C. in 1864.

Writing in 1901, sociologist B.H. Meyer noted that one in every 15 Americans belonged to a fraternal society, and his high regard for these institutions is apparent:

These societies constitute a complex of organizations which embraces in its scope the most diverse elements with respect to race affinity, material possessions, religious beliefs, political affiliations, intellectual attainment, and social position. The thread of fraternity joins them all in one great round table of equality and democracy [Meyer 1901:647].

While it is true that fraternal societies existed at every social level, there was very little diversity within a given society. Fraternal organizations were multifaceted and filled the needs of their members and local communities in a variety of ways. Members were given a sense of belonging and afforded social opportunities that might not exist outside the lodge, and benefits were paid in times of need such as for debilitating illnesses, funeral costs, and death benefits for families. Communities profited from the charitable works of the various groups; notably, the Shriner's Childrens Hospitals founded by the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, an offshoot of the Freemasons.

Resources Associated with Fraternal Organizations. These resources include fraternal halls, camps, and other meeting places.

Juvenile Justice, 1900 to 1970

Juvenile justice in the United States has its roots in Illinois, where the first juvenile court was established in 1899. Illinois's landmark legislation followed nearly 75 years of lobbying by reform groups such as the Society for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency to separate young offenders from adult criminal courts. By 1925, nearly every state had juvenile courts in place. The juvenile courts differed from criminal courts in that they focused on rehabilitation rather than punishment, and could be more flexible and informal than adult courts. Moreover, judges had "a range of dispositional options that were related to the child's situation, and not only to the crime" (Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice 2006). The Supreme Court reigned in the informality of juvenile courts during the 1960s, especial when confinement was likely.

The State of California founded their Juvenile Court system in 1903 in recognition of the differing needs of young offenders, and by 1907, juvenile inmates were no longer incarcerated at state prisons with the adult population. In 1941, California adopted the Youth Corrections Authority Act, which created a commission dealing exclusively with juvenile offenders, authorized funding for the newly formed California Youth Corrections Authority (later the California Youth Authority), and delinquency prevention was highlighted as a key goal. Within the next two years, the management of state reformatories (Preston School of Industry, Ventura School for Girls, and Fred C. Nelles School for Boys) was transferred to

the Youth Authority, as was the responsibility of delinquency prevention, which had been relegated to the State Probation Office.

During this dynamic time for juvenile justice, new facilities were established state-wide as subsidies were paid to counties for establishing homes, ranches, and camps for juvenile wards. In Sonoma County, the Youth Authority acquired the California Pythian Home for a new girl's facility, and the grounds and buildings were renovated using labor from the CYA's Preston School of Industry and Calaveras Big Tree Camp.

The existing buildings at Los Guilicos were ideal for the State to set up a school for girls based on the "cottage plan," one of two common designs for institutions such as prisons, hospitals, and orphanages during the late 19th and 20th centuries. As opposed to the more prevalent "congregate plan," the cottage plan favored rural rather than urban settings, and featured a number of small "cottages" rather than a single, imposing edifice. With support from social reform groups the cottage plan became the standard during the 20th century, and many were set up with a surrogate "parent" or "parents" living in the cottages to further a home-like atmosphere. This plan was considered especially applicable for delinquent girls who would have the opportunity to learn and practice domestic skills. Leading into the 20th century, the importance of housekeeping, and especially cooking, was stressed by Adina Mitchell, then-President of the Board of Trustees of the Whittier State School in an address to the Congress of the National Prison Association:

The aim of the management of the Whittier State School is to train the girls to be practical housekeepers. And as, above all, a good housekeeper must know how to cook, too much cannot be done to impart knowledge in the art of cookery; for it is not extravagant to say if we had more competent cooks there would be less drunkenness, unhappy families, divorces and suicides, and fewer children in orphan asylums and institutions of reform, and I even venture to say that in the populations of insane asylums and prisons there would be a decided decrease [Mitchell 1899].

Initially, Los Guilicos housed between 100 and 110 girls in the former Knights of Pythias dormitories. The old dining hall and kitchen were put to use as a training facility for domestic arts, and the Hood House was used for administration.

Resources Associated with Juvenile Justice. The resources associated with this context include juvenile halls, ranches, and camps.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS

The Los Guilicos Campus consists of 17 permanent buildings dating from 1858 to 1955, ten built between 1960 and 2000, a new retention facility constructed in 2005, and several modern, modular buildings. This report focuses on the buildings constructed from 1858 to 1955, as summarized in Table 1. During the 102-year period of interest, the property saw three distinct types of use, and the buildings reflect the shift from privately held property to that of a governmental facility.

Table 1. List of Evaluated Buildings

Name	Context	Date
Hood House	Settlement/Fraternal Organizations/Juvenile Justice	1858
EMT (Kitchen/Dining Hall)	Fraternal Organizations/Juvenile Justice	1924
Casa Mañana	Fraternal Organizations/Juvenile Justice	1925
Primera	Fraternal Organizations/Juvenile Justice	1927
EOC Storage Shed	Fraternal Organizations/Juvenile Justice	c. 1930
Bell Tower	Fraternal Organizations/Juvenile Justice	1938
Administration	Juvenile Justice	1950
Depaz	Juvenile Justice	1950
Bonita (Cottage 2)	Juvenile Justice	1950
Alegre (Cottage 1)	Juvenile Justice	1950
Maintenance	Juvenile Justice	1952
Sierra (Cottage 5)	Juvenile Justice	1953
Bella (Cottage 4)	Juvenile Justice	1953
Felice (Cottage 3)	Juvenile Justice	1953
Classroom	Juvenile Justice	1953
Gymnasium	Juvenile Justice	1953
Auditorium	Juvenile Justice	1955

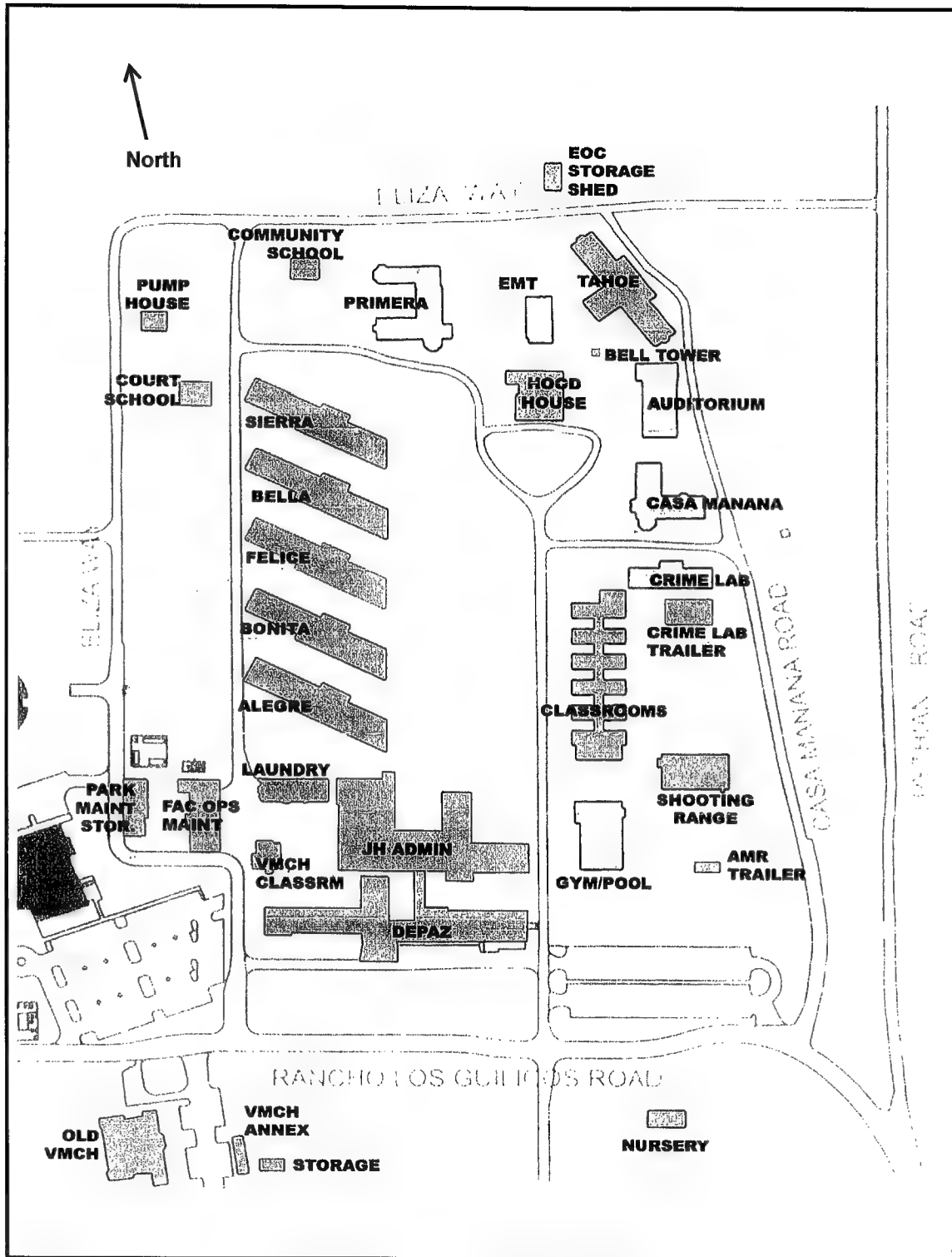


Figure 2. Plan of the Los Guilicos Campus (adapted from map created by the County of Sonoma).

Hood Mansion (1858-1924)

The Hood Mansion was the first of the extant buildings constructed on this property. Built by William Hood in 1858, the house underwent extensive renovation circa 1905 when Senator Thomas Kearns used it as a retreat. At present, the house is a two-story, cross-gabled building joined to a one story addition and a long, low, gable-roofed building at the rear. All are constructed with brick. The cross-gabled wings (a and b in Figure 4) have closed eaves and cornice accented with brackets and dentils. The gable ends are pedimented with partial returns. Windows throughout this part of the house are long, narrow, 6/6 double-hung sashes with flat lintels. At the front elevation is a one-story, full-width porch with square columns supporting the hipped porch roof. Balustrades link the columns. The upper floor of the house has five, symmetrically placed windows arrayed along the front; the lower floor has a central entry framed with simple pilasters and entablature, two windows on the north side of the door, and a window and second entry on the south side. Through its form and embellishments, this part of the house suggests Colonial Revival architecture.

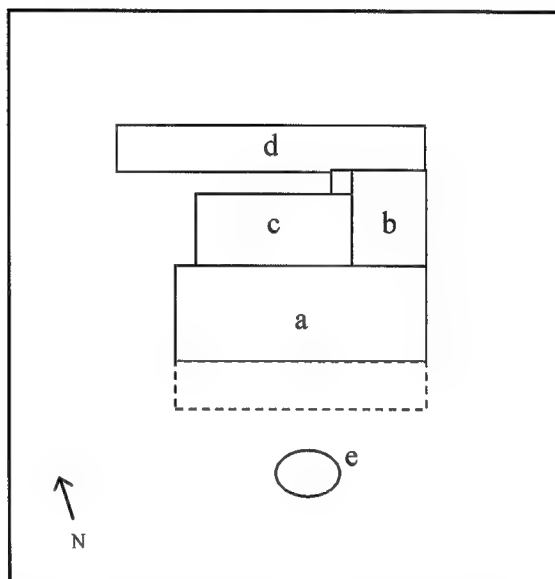


Figure 3. Schematic of the Hood House.

Built into the “L” of the two wings is a flat-roofed addition (c), possibly an added bathroom and/or storage area. This addition is linked to the gabled building (d), which looks like it might once have been detached from the rest of the house. It has multiple doorways along the eastern elevation.

At the front of the house is an oval pond and fountain (e) listed with the Hood Mansion on the National Register. The pond is built of brick.

The original house was renovated circa 1905, reportedly at a cost of more than \$175,000, a handsome sum in the early 1900s (Jayne-Weaver and Wood 1925:201). An early photograph in the Sonoma County Library’s photograph collection (No. 12988) shows the house prior to Kearns’ alterations, which are discussed in the National Register nomination form. The original house “featured a two-story central section flanked by single story wings” (Buhler 1997:7.1). Senator Kearns added upper stories to the two single story wings, and a dining room that “connected the old kitchen quarters to the main complex” (Buhler 1997:7.3). This suggests that the long, gabled building at the rear of the house was once freestanding. Detached kitchens were common before the 20th century. The flat-roofed addition in the “L” of the house (c) might be attributable to the Knights of Pythias, who reportedly added a downstairs bathroom.

California Pythian Home (1924-1943)

There are three buildings on the campus that were constructed soon after the Knights of Pythias acquired the property for its California Pythian Home. These buildings are located short distances northwest, north, and southeast of the Hood House, which was also part of the Pythian Home. A bell tower was added in 1938, and a wood-frame building farther east of the Hood House is thought to have been built by the Pythians.

Kitchen & Dining Hall (EMT). Situated directly north of the mansion is the Pythian kitchen and dining room constructed in 1924. In Figure 3, this building is labeled “EMT.” The kitchen and dining hall is a rectangular brick building with one one-story and a basement. The roof is covered with ceramic tiles. The front part of the building (south side) is side-gabled with a hip-on-gable roof. The windows and doors have semicircular fanlights. Segmented brick arches with keystone lintels are above each window and door. The front entry is marked by a partially enclosed porch and has a central door flanked by 6/6 sash windows. At present, the porch has a shed roof supported by wood posts. Doors on the west and east sides of the building have similar entry porches. Covered walkways lead from the entries to the Hood House and the Pythian dormitories.

The rear of the building differs from the front in its simplicity. The windows are wider, with 8/1 sashes, and they lack the fanlights and arched surrounds. This part of the building has a flat roof. At the north side (rear), there is a steep, narrow, concrete stairway that provides access to the basement.

Casa Mañana. In 1925, the first of two dormitories/residence halls was constructed southeast of the mansion, and is attributed to the Pythian Sisters (Buhler 1997:8.13). Casa Mañana is a cross-hipped brick structure built on a slope so that the main floor of the south wing is elevated above a semi-subterranean basement. The roof is ceramic tiles. The main entry is on the west side of the building where the two wings connect and is accessed by a set of wide steps flanked by low brick walls. The entry foyer projects slightly and is covered by a gabled roof. Three large doors topped by Palladian-style fanlights provide access to the dormitory.

Windows along each wing are narrow double-hung sashes with brick-filled arches above each window. The south end of the west wing ends in a bay room. The windows in the bay are wider and do not have the arch embellishments exhibited by windows in the remainder of the building.

Primera. Completed in 1927, Primera was the second dormitory built by the Pythians, and is very similar to the first. This brick building is U-shaped with ceramic roof tiles. As with the other dormitory, the basement is semi-subterranean owing to the slope of the ground. The entry is identical to the Casa Mañana entry. This building has two bay rooms, one on the south elevation and the other at the west end of the northern wing. The window configuration echoes that of Casa Mañana with filled arches above the wing windows and no arches above the wider windows of the bay rooms.

Bell Tower. Northeast of the Hood House is a bell tower constructed during the Knight's of Pythias' tenure. The lower portion of the wood-frame tower is an octagonal, one story room with windows on each wall. The roof comes to a central peak. The superstructure is an open framework of 4-by-6 and 2-by-6 posts and rails topped by a peaked roof similar to the one on the lower room. A bell hangs from beneath the upper roof. The bell tower was built in 1938 as a memorial to Henry Thorsen, a member of the Redwood Lodge No. 82 of the Knights of Pythias.

EOC Storage Shed. To the north, set back from the residential part of the Pythian Home, is a long, rectangular, wood-frame building with a gabled roof. This building sits on piers of varying heights to accommodate the slope of the land. The exterior walls are clad with horizontal drop siding. The roof is covered with metal sheeting but the original, composition shingle roof is visible where the sheeting has torn loose. The south elevation has concrete steps with metal handrails leading up to double doors. The doors are not original. Flanking the doors are two small, four-paned, casement windows. Thirteen of the same small windows are symmetrically placed along each side of the building, and four are at the rear.

Other Structures. Covered walkways link each of the brick buildings and the Hood House. Buhler (1997:7-2, 7-3) felt that the walkways were constructed after the Knights of Pythias sold the property. Review of a photograph in the Sonoma County Library collection (No. 10368) showing some of the Pythian residents, and an early postcard showing the Primera dormitory, reveals that walkways were present during the Knights of Pythias' tenure. The original configuration of alternating high and low sections of the roof has been retained, although the early walkway had exposed beams where the present roof has a boxed appearance.

Adjacent to the southeastern corner of the kitchen/dining hall is an outdoor drinking fountain made of turquoise ceramic. The pedestal base is octagonal, tapering to the top where an oval basin rests. The fountain is mounted on a triangular, concrete pad with a Knights of Pythias logo and the Pythias Cross inset (see Figure 5).



Figure 4. Knights of Pythias logo and Pythias Cross

Los Guilicos School for Girls (1943-1971)

Administration Building and Depaz. Beginning in 1950, several new buildings were constructed for the girl's school, which for six years had been housed in the old Hood House and Knights of Pythias buildings. The Juvenile Hall Administrative building (shown as JH Admin in Figure 3) and Depaz were the first for which contracts were let by the State

Department of Public Works. Both are constructed of reinforced concrete, and are long, low, flat-roofed buildings. At present, they are connected by an enclosed hallway central to both buildings. Windows have metal sashes. Those on the front elevation of Depaz and a few in the administrative building are small-paned, louvered windows. Most are large-paned, fixed windows often forming half-walls of windows much like a school building from the same era.

Cottages. Two of the five “cottages” (Alegre and Bonita) were also built in 1950. The contract called for each to be about 7,600 square feet and have 40 “typical rooms.” These long, rectangular, one-story buildings are of reinforced concrete from floor to ceiling. Windows are set high on most elevations, and have steel sashes generally arrayed as small, fixed panes in two or more rows over a single, louvered row. The decorative element to these austere buildings is the scoring of the concrete walls in some areas to suggest the use of concrete blocks.

In 1953, three other dormitories (Felice, Bella, and Sierra, in Figure 3) were built on the same plan and of similar construction as the first two, as prescribed by the State Department of Public Works.

Maintenance. The maintenance building (Fac Ops Maint in Figure 3) is a one-story, gable-roofed building built in 1952. The lower portion of the exterior walls is concrete block. The upper portion is marked by large-paned windows set in metal sashes, with metal sheeting covering the limited areas where there are no windows. The main entrance to this building is on the west side, where there are also two loading bay doors. The roof is also covered with metal sheeting.

Classrooms. The classrooms were built in 1953, and comprise six rectangular buildings connected by a central corridor. The open-air corridor has a low concrete wall about three feet high, and is open above that height. Classrooms open onto the corridor. With the exception of the southern-most set of classrooms, the south elevation of each room has a row of windows set high, near the roof-wall junction. The northern elevations are primarily windows with only the lower third being concrete. The roofs are flat.

Gymnasium. The gymnasium is a tall, rectangular building with a low addition on the north side and an entry foyer at the northwest corner. Built of reinforced concrete, the gym has rows of hinged windows set high on the east and west elevations. The south elevation has no piercing. The entry foyer is formed by two window walls enclosing the area between the original gym and the north end addition. The gym was built in 1953. An outdoor pool was added on the east side of the gym at a later date.

Auditorium. The auditorium is a large, flat-roofed, reinforced concrete building with a brick entrance foyer at the northwest corner.

CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this evaluation was to determine if any or all of the buildings on the Los Guilicos Campus are historically or architecturally important. There are two regulatory contexts that could apply to the Los Guilicos buildings: the California Environmental Quality Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Seventeen buildings were old enough to merit consideration as important historical resources, and they fit chronologically and thematically into three historic contexts. Table 2 summarizes the results of this study.

Hood Mansion (1858-1924)

Buhler (1997) nominated the Hood Mansion and its reflecting pool for inclusion on the National Register. Buhler found that the house met National Register Criterion A, citing “social history” as the area of significance based on its use by the Knights of Pythias as the administrative center for their retirement home, and 1924 to 1944 as the period of significance. This study finds that four other buildings associated with the Knights of Pythias also meet National Register Criterion A, as well as California Register Criterion 1. We concur with Buhler’s evaluation and nomination, and found no apparent alterations that reduce the building’s integrity.

California Pythian Home

In addition to the Hood House, there are four, and possibly five, other buildings that were part of the California Pythian Home. These buildings are perhaps more directly linked to the Knights of Pythias because they were built specifically for use as retirement facilities. Within the context of Fraternal Organizations, the California Pythian Home meets California Register Criterion 1 and National Register Criterion A.

Criteria 2 and B were not met because there is no direct link between important people and the California Pythian Home buildings.

With respect to Criteria 3 and C, the three brick buildings meet these criteria because they are very good examples of the Spanish Eclectic style adapted to institutional buildings.

None of the Pythian Home buildings meet Criteria 4 or D because they possess no intrinsic qualities that could answer questions or provide important information about our history.

Los Guilicos School for Girls

The Los Guilicos School for Girls was initially housed in the buildings of the California Pythian Home. During the 1950s, new buildings were erected and became the core of the school. These buildings were evaluated within the context of Juvenile Justice.

Under Criteria 1 and A, a resource must be associated with events that were significant on a broad scale at either the local, regional history, state, or national level. While the buildings constructed during the 1950s are associated with the theme of Juvenile Justice, they are not especially important representatives of that theme and do not meet Criteria 1 or A.

The 1950s buildings do not meet Criteria 2 or B because there is no direct link between them and any important people.

None of the 1950s buildings are architecturally distinguished and Criteria 3 and C are not met.

None of the 1950s buildings meet Criteria 4 or D because they possess no intrinsic qualities that could answer questions or provide important information about our history.

Table 2. Building Evaluation Summary

Name	Context	Criteria Met
Hood House	Fraternal Organizations	A
EMT (Kitchen/Dining Hall)	Fraternal Organizations	A, C
Casa Mañana	Fraternal Organizations	A, C
Primera	Fraternal Organizations	A, C
EOC Storage Shed	Fraternal Organizations	A
Bell Tower	Fraternal Organizations	A
Administration	Juvenile Justice	None
Depaz	Juvenile Justice	None
Bonita (Cottage 2)	Juvenile Justice	None
Alegre (Cottage 1)	Juvenile Justice	None
Maintenance	Juvenile Justice	None
Sierra (Cottage 5)	Juvenile Justice	None
Bella (Cottage 4)	Juvenile Justice	None
Felice (Cottage 3)	Juvenile Justice	None
Classroom	Juvenile Justice	None
Gymnasium	Juvenile Justice	None
Auditorium	Juvenile Justice	None

SUMMARY

Tom Origer & Associates completed an architectural/historical evaluation of buildings at the Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center as part of the Los Guilicos Long Range Plan being prepared by the County of Sonoma. The complex of buildings formerly comprising the California Pythian Home appears eligible for inclusion on both the California Register and the National Register. This includes the Hood House, previously listed on the National Register. The 1950s buildings of the Los Guilicos School for Girls do not appear to meet the eligibility criteria for either the state or federal register.

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Sonoma County Knights of Pythias

1922 *A Home for the Pythians in the Valley of the Moon*. Knights of Pythias, Santa Rosa.

United States Bureau of Census

1930 Population Census for Sonoma County. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

Appendix A

Resource Documentation

California Pythian Home
Los Guilicos School for Girls

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # P-

HRI #

Trinomial:

NRHP Status Code:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Other Listings:

Review Code:

Reviewer:

Date:

Page 1 of 11

P1. Other Identifier:

P2. Location: Unrestricted

a. County: Sonoma

b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Kenwood

Date: 1980

T N/R W; 1/4 of 1/4 of Sec. ; MDBM (Los Guillicos Landgrant)

c. Address: 7425 Rancho Los Guillicos Road **City:** Santa Rosa **Zip:** 95409

d. UTM: Zone: 10 536880mE 4254960 mN (NW Corner) 537080 mE 4254920 mN (NE Corner)
536840mE 4254820 mN (SW Corner) 537020 mE 4254700 mN (SE Corner)

e. Other Locational Information:

P3a. Description: In 1924, the Knights of Pythias purchased the Hood Mansion and surrounding lands to use as a retirement home for its elderly members, and soon after constructed a kitchen/dining hall and two dormitories. The Pythian Home was in operation until 1943, when the County of Sonoma leased the property. The following year, the County exercised their option to buy the property, and between 1943 and 1950, the Hood Mansion and Pythian buildings served as a school for delinquent girls. New dormitories and other facilities were built adjacent to the Pythian Home beginning in 1950 but the old Pythian buildings and the Hood House remained in use as well.

Buildings and features of the California Pythian Home are documented in this record. The Hood Mansion was previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is discussed here because of its association with the home. Descriptions are provided beginning on page 2.

P3b. Resource Attributes: HP13, HP14, HP15

P4. Resources Present: Buildings, Landscape

P5. Photograph or Drawing:

P5b. Description of Photo: Casa Mañana, west elevation



P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:
1858-1938

P7. Owner and Address:
County of Sonoma
2555 Mendocino Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

P8. Recorded by:
Tom Origer & Associates
P.O. Box 1531
Rohnert Park, CA 94927

P9. Date Recorded:
November 10, 2006

P10. Type of Survey:
Resource Specific

P11. Report Citation:

Beard, V.

2006 *Architectural and Historical Evaluation of the Los Guillicos Juvenile Justice Center Complex, Pythian Road, Sonoma County, California.*

P12. Attachments: Building, Structure, and Object Record; Continuation Sheets; Location Map

CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 2 of 11

Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Date: December 2006

P3a. Description: (continued from page 1)

California Pythian Home

Hood Mansion. The Hood Mansion was the first of the extant buildings constructed on this property. Built by William Hood in 1858, the house underwent extensive renovation circa 1905 when Senator Thomas Kearns used it as a retreat. At present, the house is a two-story, cross-gabled building joined to a one story addition and a long, low, gable-roofed building at the rear. All are constructed with brick.

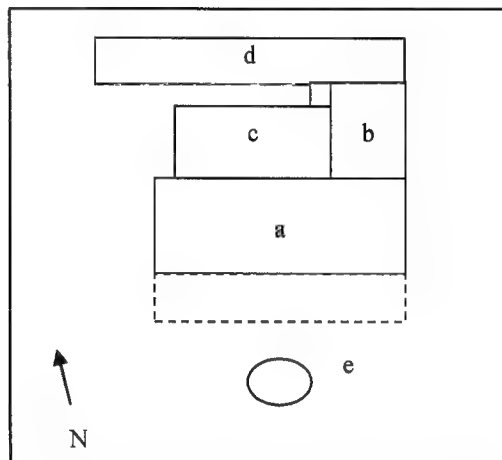


Figure 1. Schematic of the Hood House

The cross-gabled wings (a and b in Figure 1) have closed eaves and cornice accented with brackets and dentils. The gable ends are pedimented with partial returns. Windows throughout this part of the house are long, narrow, 6/6 double-hung sashes with flat lintels. At the front elevation is a one-story, full-width porch with square columns supporting the hipped porch roof. Balustrades link the columns. The upper floor of the house has five symmetrically placed windows arrayed along the front; the lower floor has a central entry framed with simple pilasters and entablature, two windows on the north side of the door, and a window and second entry on the south side. Through its form and embellishments, this part of the house suggests Colonial Revival architecture.

Built into the “L” of the two wings is a flat-roofed addition (c), possibly an added bathroom and/or storage area. This addition is linked to the gabled building (d), which looks like it might once have been a detached from the rest of the house. The addition has multiple doorways along the eastern elevation.

At the front of the house is an oval pond and fountain (e) listed with the Hood Mansion on the National Register. The pond is built of brick.

The original house was renovated circa 1905, reportedly at a cost of more than \$175,000, a handsome sum in the early 1900s (Jayne-Weaver and Wood 1925:201). An early photograph in the Sonoma County Library’s photograph collection (No. 12988) shows the house prior to Kearns’ alterations, which are discussed in the National Register nomination form. The original house “featured a two-story central section flanked by single story wings” (Buhler 1997:7.1). Senator Kearns added upper stories to the two single story wings, and a dining room that “connected the old kitchen quarters to the main complex” (Buhler 1997:7.3). This suggests that the long, gabled building at the rear of the house was once freestanding. Detached kitchens were common before the 20th century. The flat-roofed addition in the “L” of the house (c) might be attributable to the Knights of Pythias, who reportedly added a downstairs bathroom.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Date: December 2006

Page 3 of 11

Recorded by: V. Beard

P3a. Description: (Continued form page 2)

Kitchen & Dining Hall (EMT). Situated directly north of the mansion is the Pythian kitchen and dining room constructed in 1924. In Figure 2, this building is labeled "EMT." The kitchen and dining hall is a rectangular brick building with one one-story and a basement. The roof is covered with ceramic tiles. The front part of the building (south side) is side-gabled with a hip-on-gable roof. The windows and doors have semicircular fanlights. Segmented brick arches with keystone lintels are above each window and door. The front entry is marked by a partially enclosed porch and has a central door flanked by 6/6 sash windows. At present, the porch has a shed roof supported by wood posts. Doors on the west and east sides of the building have similar entry porches. Covered walkways lead from the entries to the Hood House and the Pythian dormitories.

The rear of the building differs from the front in its simplicity. The windows are wider, with 8/1 sashes, and they lack the fanlights and arched surrounds. This part of the building has a flat roof. At the west side (rear), there is a steep, narrow, concrete stairway that provides access to the basement.

Casa Mañana. In 1925, the first of two dormitories/residence halls was constructed southeast of the mansion, and is attributed to the Pythian Sisters (Buhler 1997:8.13). Casa Mañana is a cross-hipped, brick structure built on a slope so that the main floor of the south wing is elevated above a semi-subterranean basement. The roof is ceramic tiles. The main entry is on the west side of the building where the two wings connect and is accessed by a set of wide steps flanked by low brick walls. The entry foyer projects slightly and is covered by a gabled roof. Three large doors topped by Palladian-style fanlights provide access to the dormitory.

Windows along each wing are narrow double-hung sashes with brick-filled arches above each window. The south end of the west wing ends in a bay room. The windows in the bay are wider and do not have the arch embellishments exhibited by the windows in the remainder of the buildings.

Primera. Completed in 1927, Primera was the second dormitory built by the Pythians, and is very similar to the first. This brick building is U-shaped with ceramic roof tiles. As with the other dormitory, the basement is semi-subterranean owing to the slope of the ground. The entry is identical to the Casa Mañana entry. This building has two bay rooms, one on the south elevation and the other at the west end of the northern wing. The window configuration echoes that of Casa Mañana with filled arches above the wing windows and no arches above the wider windows of the bay rooms.

Bell Tower. Northeast of the Hood House is a bell tower constructed during the Knight's of Pythias' tenure. The lower portion of the wood-frame tower is an octagonal, one story room with windows on each wall. The roof comes to a central peak. The superstructure is an open framework of 4-by-6 and 2-by-6 posts and rails topped by a peaked roof similar to the one on the lower room. A bell hangs from beneath the upper roof. The bell tower was built in 1938 as a memorial to Henry Thorsen, a member of the Redwood Lodge No. 82 of the Knights of Pythias.

EOC Storage Shed. To the north, set back from the residential part of the Pythian Home, is a long, rectangular, wood-frame building with a gabled roof. This building sits on piers of varying heights to accommodate the slope of the land. The exterior walls are clad with horizontal drop siding. The roof is covered with metal sheeting but the original, composition shingle roof is visible where the sheeting has torn loose. The south elevation has concrete steps with metal handrails leading up to double doors. The doors are not original. Flanking the doors are two small, four-paned, casement windows. Thirteen of the same small windows are symmetrically placed along each side of the building, and four are at the rear.

Other Structures. Covered walkways link each of the brick buildings and the Hood House. Buhler (1997:7-2, 7-3) felt that the walkways were constructed after the Knights of Pythias sold the property. Review of a photograph in the Sonoma County Library collection (No. 10368) showing some of the Pythian residents, and an early postcard showing the Primera dormitory, indicate that walkways were present during the Knights of Pythias' tenure. The original configuration of alternating high and low sections of the roof has been retained although the early walkway had exposed beams where the present roof has a boxed appearance.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Date: December 2006

P3a. Description: (Continued from page 3)

Adjacent to the southeastern corner of the kitchen/dining hall is an outdoor drinking fountain made of turquoise ceramic. The pedestal base is octagonal, tapering to the top where an oval basin rests. The fountain is mounted on a triangular, concrete pad with a Knights of Pythias logo and the Pythias Cross inset (see Figure 2).

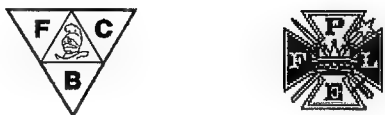


Figure 2. Knights of Pythias logo and Pythias Cross

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary # P-

HRI #

NRHP Status Code:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Page 5 of 11

B1. Historic Name: Hood Mansion; California Pythian Home

B2. Common Name: Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center

B3. Original Use: Ranch

B4. Present Use: Correctional Facility

B5. Architectural Style: Colonial Revival (Hood House); Spanish Eclectic (Pythian Buildings)

B6. Construction History: Hood House was constructed in 1858 and was remodeled circa 1905. The original house had a central two-story core with flanking one-story wings. The upper floor was extended across the two wings to form the current south wing of the house. At about the same time, the eastern wing was added that joined the main house to a previously freestanding kitchen.

B7. Moved? No

Date:

Original Location:

B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: Unknown

B9b. Builder: Unknown

B10. Significance:

Theme: Fraternal Organizations

Area: United States

Period of Significance: 1900 to 1950

Property Type: Retirement Home

Applicable Criteria: California Register 1, 3

National Register Criteria A, C

See Continuation Sheet page 6

B11. Additional Resource Attributes:

See Continuation Sheet page 9

B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet page 10

B13. Remarks:

B14. Evaluator: V. Beard

Date of Evaluation: December 2006

North ↑

CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 6 of 11

Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #:

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Date: December 2006

B10. Significance: (continued from page 5)

Context Statement

Fraternal Societies, 1820 to 1950

In general, fraternal societies are considered groups of people with common interests, organized to provide social opportunities for members, provide members with such benefits as life, accident, and health insurance; or to help their communities. Membership is usually by invitation only, and most often is restricted to men (although some have auxiliary groups for wives and children). There are a few women's societies. Their origins are traced to 16th-century English laborers who formed "friendly societies" to help when members were sick or died.

Many fraternal organizations are modeled after the Freemasons, and are European in origin. Among the first to arrive the United States were the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Ancient Order of Druids, and the Ancient Order of Foresters, which were introduced in 1819, about 1830, and 1832, respectively. The first society to originate in the States was the Improved Order of Red Men, established in 1833. The Knights of Pythias formed in Washington D.C. in 1864.

Writing in 1901, sociologist B.H. Meyer noted that one in every 15 Americans belonged to a fraternal society, and his high regard for these institutions is apparent:

These societies constitute a complex of organizations which embraces in its scope the most diverse elements with respect to race affinity, material possessions, religious beliefs, political affiliations, intellectual attainment, and social position. The thread of fraternity joins them all in one great round table of equality and democracy [Meyer 1901:647].

While it is true that fraternal societies existed at every social level, there was very little diversity within a given society. Fraternal organizations were multifaceted and filled the needs of their members and local communities in a variety of ways. Members were given a sense of belonging and afforded social opportunities that might not exist outside the lodge, and benefits were paid in times of need such as for debilitating illnesses, funeral costs, and death benefits for families. Communities profited from the charitable works of the various groups; notably, the Shriner's Childrens Hospitals founded by the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrinean, an offshoot of the Freemasons.

Resources Associated with Fraternal Organizations. These resources include fraternal halls, camps, and other meeting places.

Property History

Los Guillicos

The Los Guillicos Rancho was granted to Juan (John) Wilson in 1839. Wilson, a sea captain from Scotland, married the widow, Ramona Carrillo de Pacheco, of the prestigious San Diego Carrillo family. The Wilson's resided in an adobe near Sonoma Creek, and raised cattle on their 13,330-acre rancho until 1850, when it was purchased by William Hood and William Pettit. Shortly after that, Hood took full ownership, and it was to him that the U.S. Lands Commission conveyed the grant patent in 1866. In the years preceding 1866, Hood and his wife, Eliza, were plagued with financial problems, and in 1868, the majority of the rancho lands were sold to pay off notes held in Hood's name. They then focused on raising horses, fruit and grain production, and established the Los Guillicos Winery. Reportedly, a three-story, stone winery, a wine cellar, and a distillery were built on the property circa 1861 (Hoover, Rensch, and Abeloe 1966:536).

At the turn of the 20th century, the property was in the hands of F.S. Wensinger, a real estate broker out of San Francisco. It was purchased by U.S. Senator Thomas Kearns of Utah and used as a retreat from 1905 to 1918 (Buhler 1997:8-6).

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #:

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Date: December 2006

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Recorded by: V. Beard

B10. Significance: (continued from page 6)

California Pythian Home

In 1924, the Knights of Pythias fraternal organization bought the Hood property to use as a retirement home for its older members. The Knights of Pythias is a fraternal organization founded in 1864 by Justus Henry Rathbone and others to promote the principals of friendship, charity, and benevolence. The Washington, D.C.-based order followed the fundamental tenants of tolerance in religion, obedience to law, and loyalty to government. The first California lodge of Pythians was organized in San Francisco in 1869, and the organization reached its peak in 1923 with over 31,000 members and 210 lodges in the state (Kennedy 1904:371-372, cited in Bransgrove 2002)

The Pythian committee selecting the retirement home location seemed charged with a near holy task and pleased with their choice of the Los Guilicos site:

In the selection of our fraternal home we must reckon with the centuries of a vast future. No ordinary, no perfunctory selection would suffice. Our requirements demand quantities of quality and in the glorious acreage herein presented we feel with all the ties that bind us and make of each Pythian a brother, that our Order shall attain a home of everlasting superiority, of eternal fitness [Jayne-Weaver and Wood 1925:201].

In addition to the Hood House and a few other buildings (mostly agricultural outbuildings), when the Knights of Pythias bought the property they acquired "36.3 acres of two and three year old prunes, 14.9 acres of three and four year old peaches and apricots, 102.9 acres of full bearing Zinfalden and Alacante vineyard, and 162.5 acres of hay and grain. (Jayne-Weaver and Wood 1925:201).

The Pythians built a one-story kitchen and dining room just behind the Hood House in 1924, and two dormitories were built nearby in 1925 and 1927. Located not far from the house was land dedicated as a cemetery for Knights of Pythias members (Buhler 1997).

The 1930 census lists 61 "guests" at the Pythian Home, the Superintendent, Noah Grider, and his wife, and eight employees ranging from nutritionist to janitor (U.S. Bureau of Census 1930). As a benevolent organization, the Knights of Pythias also took in orphans, and six of the guests enumerated in 1930 were under the age of 18.

The California Pythian Home served the needs of its elder members for nearly 20 years; but having reached its zenith during the 1920s, the order lost some 550,000 members nationwide by 1940 (Bransgrove 2002), and the need for retirement homes lessened. In 1943, the Knights of Pythias moved its residents from the California Pythian Home, and leased the property to Sonoma County for use as a juvenile home. The County bought the property outright the following year.

California School for Girls

The former Pythian Home became the California School for Girls in 1943. A brief history of the facility in the files of the California Youth Authority contained this description:

The Youth Authority was fortunate in being able to lease, in the late summer of 1943, the Pythian Old People's Home located in the Valley of the Moon in Sonoma County. The site, comprising 420 acres, was once part of the old Los Guilicos [sic] Spanish Grant of 19,000 acres. Facilities at the Old People's Home included the original ranch home, built in 1858, two dormitories, a dining room and kitchen built in 1926, and a few auxiliary and farm buildings. All of these buildings were in fairly good condition and the dormitories were well adapted for usage for a training school program [Anonymous 1949]

Between 1943 and 1949, the school had beds for 100 to 115 girls in the former Pythian dormitories. In the late 1940s plans for modern facilities were enacted, and the State Department of Public Works-Division of Architecture contracted with San Francisco architects, Harry A. Thomsen and Aleck L. Wilson. Included in plan were administration and detention buildings, a hospital, laundry, kitchen and

CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 8 of 11
Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #:
HRI #:
Trinomial:
Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2
Date: December 2006

B10. Significance: (continued from page 7)

dining room, dormitories, and cottages. Each of the five new dormitories had 40 rooms, a living area, supervisor's station, communal bathing and toilet rooms, and a laundry room. Construction of the new facility began in 1950 and was completed in 1954.

During the 1970s, Los Guilicos was converted to a boy's facility. Sonoma County has focused its youth delinquency and delinquency prevention programs at Los Guilicos, and recently constructed a new, 140,000-square-foot Juvenile Detention Facility adjacent to the former girl's school buildings. At present, the older buildings are vacant except for a few of the classrooms and recreation facilities. Hood House is a repository for some of the county's historical records.

Statement of Significance

Hood Mansion (1858-1924)

Buhler (1997) nominated the Hood Mansion and its reflecting pool for inclusion on the National Register. Buhler found that the house met National Register Criterion A, citing "social history" as the area of significance based on its use by the Knights of Pythias as the administrative center for their retirement home, and 1924 to 1944 as the period of significance. This study finds that four other buildings associated with the Knights of Pythias also meet National Register Criterion A, as well as California Register Criterion 1. We concur with Buhler's evaluation and nomination, and found no apparent alterations that reduce the building's integrity.

California Pythian Home

In addition to the Hood House, there are four, and possibly five, other buildings that were part of the California Pythian Home. These buildings are perhaps more directly linked to the Knights of Pythias because they were built specifically for use as retirement facilities. Within the context of Fraternal Organizations, the California Pythian Home meets California Register Criterion 1 and National Register Criterion A.

Criteria 2 and B were not met because there is no direct link between important people and the California Pythian Home buildings.

With respect to Criteria 3 and C, the three brick buildings meet these criteria because they are very good examples of the Spanish Eclectic style adapted to institutional buildings.

None of the Pythian Home buildings meet Criteria 4 or D because they possess no intrinsic qualities that could answer questions or provide important information about our history.

Building Evaluation Summary

Name	Context	Criteria Met
Hood House	Fraternal Organizations	A
EMT (Kitchen/Dining Hall)	Fraternal Organizations	A, C
Casa Mañana	Fraternal Organizations	A, C
Primera	Fraternal Organizations	A, C
EOC Storage Shed	Fraternal Organizations	A
Bell Tower	Fraternal Organizations	A

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #:
HRI #:
Trinomial:
Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2
Date: December 2006

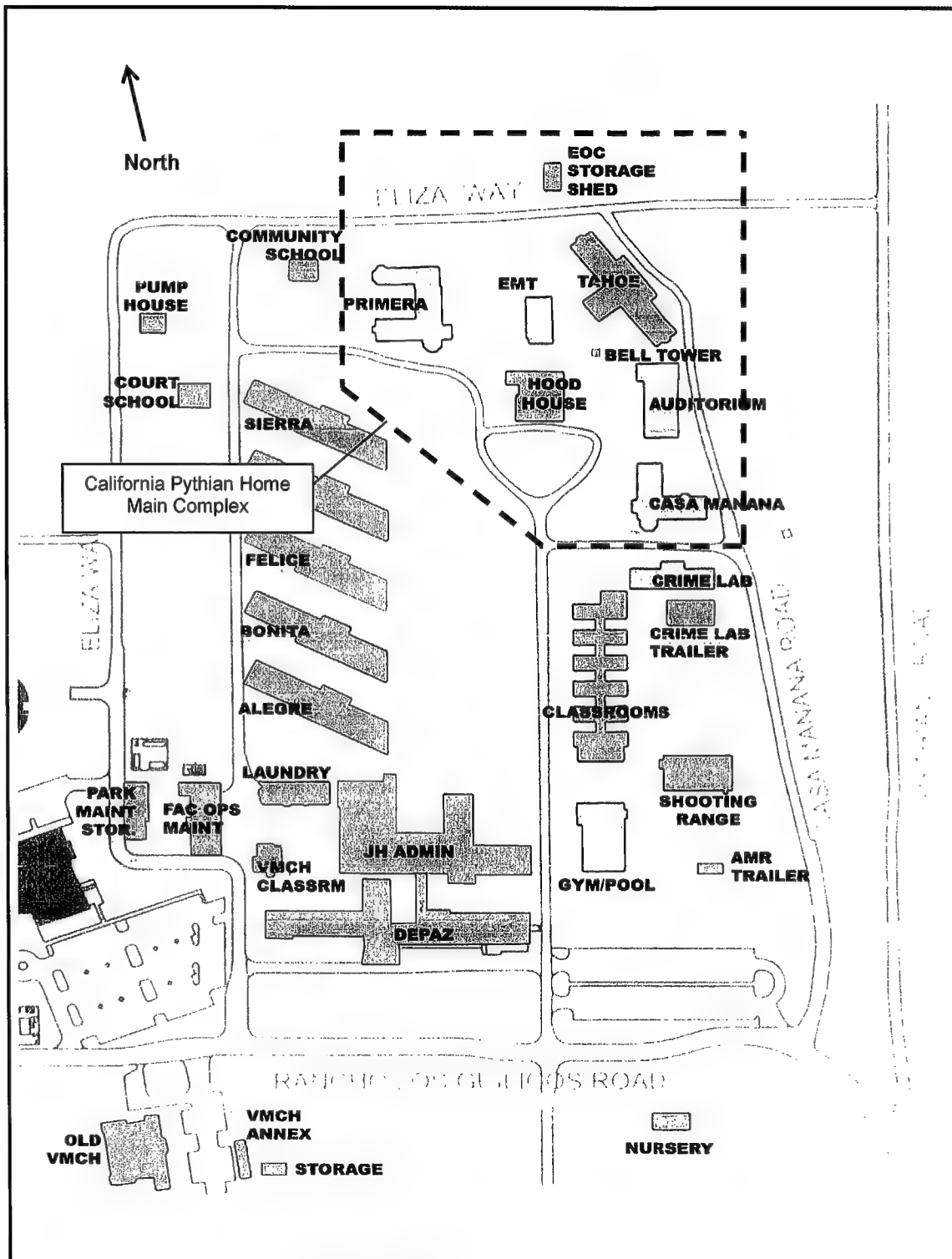


Figure 2. Layout of the California Home Complex.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home 2

Date: December 2006

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Recorded by: V. Beard

B12. References:

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2002 *Toward a Fraternal History of Marin County: A Survey of Secret Societies being a General History of Various Fraternities and Their Specific Impact in Marin.* <<http://mill-valley.freemasonry.biz/marin-fraternities.htm>> (November 30, 2006).

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Sonoma County Knights of Pythias

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United States Bureau of Census

1930 Population Census for Sonoma County. Department of the Interior

LOCATION MAP

Page 11 of 11

Map Name: Kenwood

Scale: 7.5'

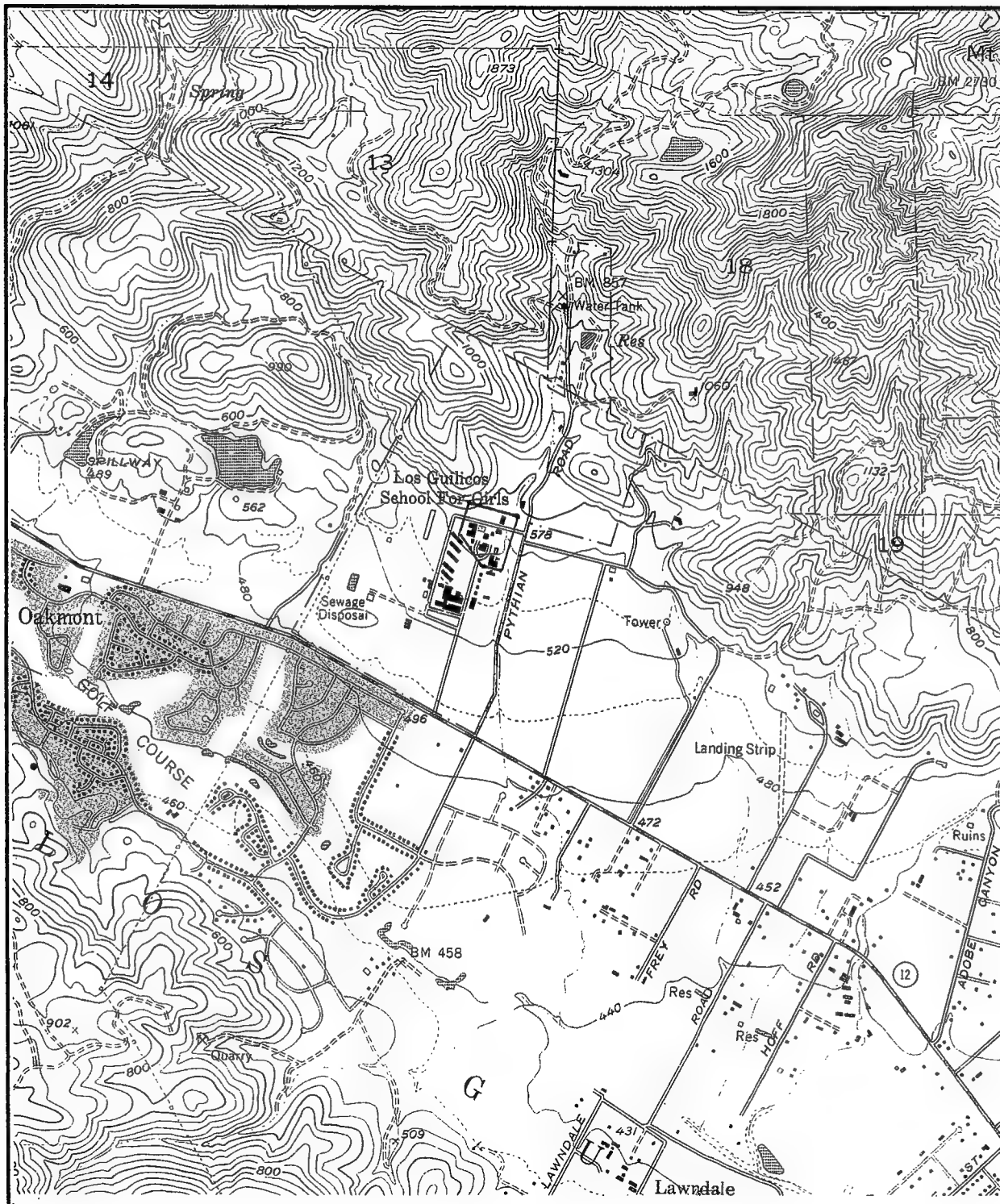
Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: California Pythian Home

Date of Map: 1980



PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # P-

HRI #

Trinomial:

NRHP Status Code:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Other Listings:

Review Code:

Reviewer:

Date:

Page 1 of 9

P1. Other Identifier:

P2. Location: Unrestricted

a. County: Sonoma

b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Kenwood

Date: 1980

T N/R W; 1/4 of 1/4 of Sec. ; MDBM (Los Guilicos Landgrant)

c. Address: 7425 Rancho Los Guilicos Road **City:** Santa Rosa **Zip:** 95409

d. UTM: Zone: 10 536780 mE 4254840 mN (NW Corner) 536970 mE 4254660 mN (NE Corner)
536720 mE 4254500 mN (SW Corner) 536620 mE 4254460 mN (SE Corner)

e. Other Locational Information:

P3a. Description: The Los Guilicos Campus consists of 17 permanent buildings dating from 1858 to 1955, during which time the property saw three distinct types of use. From 1858 to 1924, the property was a private residence. The fraternal organization, Knights of Pythias owned the property from 1924 to 1943, and constructed building used for elderly members. In 1924, the property was obtained by the County of Sonoma, and a school for delinquent girls was opened by the California Youth Authority. Several new buildings were added to the school beginning in 1950. Although the school was made co-educational in 1971, it remained a juvenile corrections facility until 2005 when a new facility was opened on adjacent lands.

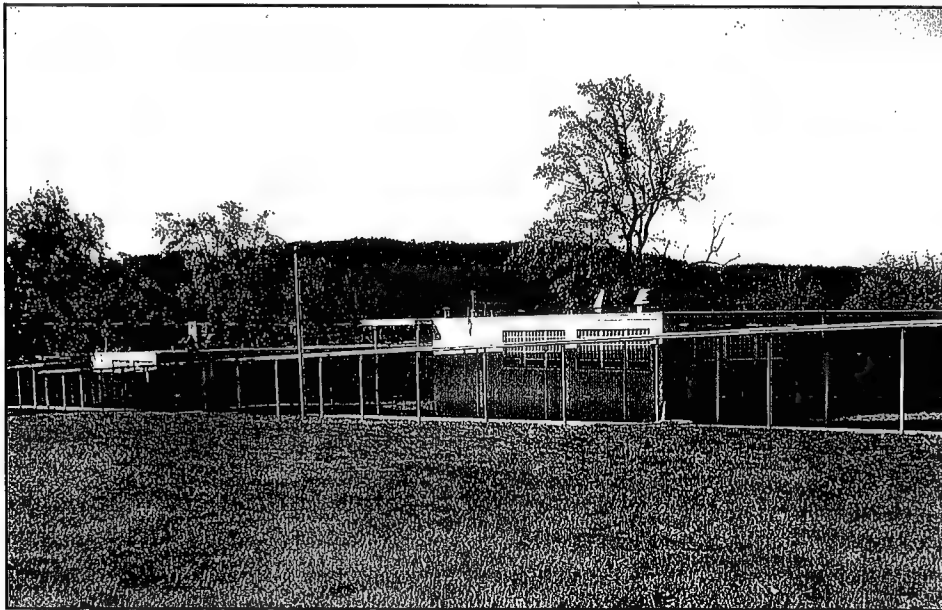
This record documents the 1950s phase of construction that created the larger Los Guilicos School for Girls.

P3b. Resource Attributes: HP13, HP14, HP15

P4. Resources Present: Buildings, Landscape

P5. Photograph or Drawing:

P5b. Description of Photo: View southwest toward dormitories.



P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:
1950-1955

P7. Owner and Address:
County of Sonoma
2555 Mendocino Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

P8. Recorded by:
Tom Origer & Associates
P.O. Box 1531
Rohnert Park, CA 94927

P9. Date Recorded:
November 10, 2006

P10. Type of Survey:
Resource Specific

P11. Report Citation:

Beard, V.

2006 *Architectural and Historical Evaluation of the Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center Complex, Pythian Road, Sonoma County, California.*

P12. Attachments: Building, Structure, and Object Record; Continuation Sheets; Location Map

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #: P-

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Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Date: December 2006

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Recorded by: V. Beard

P3a. Description: (Continued from page 1)

Los Guilicos School for Girls (1943-1971)

Administration Building and Depaz. Beginning in 1950, several new buildings were constructed for the girl's school, which for six years had been housed in the old Hood House and Knights of Pythias buildings. The Juvenile Hall Administrative building (shown as JH Admin in Figure 1) and Depaz were the first for which contracts were let by the State Department of Public Works. Both are constructed of reinforced concrete, and are long, low, flat-roofed buildings. At present, they are connected by an enclosed hallway central to both buildings. Windows have metal sashes. Those on the front elevation of Depaz and a few in the administrative building are small-paned, louvered windows. Most are large-paned, fixed windows often forming half-walls of windows much like a school building from the same era.

Cottages. Two of the five "cottages" (Alegre and Bonita) were also built in 1950. The contract called for each to be about 7,600 square feet and have 40 "typical rooms." These long, rectangular, one-story buildings are of reinforced concrete from floor to ceiling. Windows are set high on most elevations, and have steel sashes generally arrayed as small, fixed panes in two or more rows over a single, louvered row. The decorative element to these austere buildings is the scoring of the concrete walls in some areas to suggest the use of concrete blocks.

In 1953, three other dormitories (Felice, Bella, and Sierra, in Figure 1) were built on the same plan and of similar construction as the first two, as prescribed by the State Department of Public Works.

Maintenance. The maintenance building (Fac Ops Maint in Figure 1) is a one-story, gable-roofed building built in 1952. The lower portion of the exterior walls is concrete block. The upper portion is marked by large-paned windows set in metal sashes, with metal sheeting covering the limited areas where there are no windows. The main entrance to this building is on the west side, where there are also two loading bay doors. The roof is also covered with metal sheeting.

Classrooms. The classrooms were built in 1953, and comprise six rectangular buildings connected by a central corridor. The open-air corridor has a low concrete wall about three feet high, and is open above that height. Classrooms open onto the corridor. With the exception of the southern-most set of classrooms, the south elevation of each room has a row of windows set high, near the roof-wall junction. The northern elevations are primarily windows with only the lower third being concrete. The roofs are flat.

Gymnasium. The gymnasium is a tall, rectangular building with a low addition on the north side and an entry foyer at the northwest corner. Built of reinforced concrete, the gym has rows of hinged windows set high on the east and west elevations. The south elevation has no piercing. The entry foyer is formed by two window walls enclosing the area between the original gym and the north end addition. The gym was built in 1953. An outdoor pool was added on the east side of the gym at a later date.

Auditorium. The auditorium is a large, flat-roofed, reinforced concrete building with a brick entrance foyer at the northwest corner.

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE,
AND OBJECT RECORD**

Primary # P-

HRI #

NRHP Status Code:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Page 3 of 9

B1. Historic Name: Los Guilicos School for Girls

B2. Common Name: Los Guilicos Juvenile Justice Center

B3. Original Use: Detention Facility

B4. Present Use: Vacant

B5. Architectural Style: Modern

B6. Construction History:

B7. Moved? No **Date:**

Original Location:

B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: Harry A. Thomsen & Aleck L. Wilson

B9b. Builder: Various

B10. Significance: **Theme:** Juvenile Justice

Area: California

Period of Significance: 1940 to 1971

Property Type: Detention Facility

Applicable Criteria: None

See Continuation Sheet page 4

B11. Additional Resource Attributes:

See Continuation Sheet page 7

B12. References:

See Continuation Sheet page 8

B13. Remarks:

B14. Evaluator: V. Beard

Date of Evaluation: December 2006

North ↑

CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 9

Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #:

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Date: December 2006

B10. Significance: (Continued)

Context Statement

Juvenile Justice, 1900 to 1970

Juvenile justice in the United States has its roots in Illinois, where the first juvenile court was established in 1899. Illinois's landmark legislation followed nearly 75 years of lobbying by reform groups such as the Society for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency to separate young offenders from adult criminal courts. By 1925, nearly every state had juvenile courts in place. The juvenile courts differed from criminal courts in that they focused on rehabilitation rather than punishment, and could be more flexible and informal than adult courts. Moreover, judges had "a range of dispositional options that were related to the child's situation, and not only to the crime" (Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice 2006). The Supreme Court reigned in the informality of juvenile courts during the 1960s, especially when confinement was likely.

The State of California founded their Juvenile Court system in 1903 in recognition of the differing needs of young offenders, and by 1907, juvenile inmates were no longer incarcerated at state prisons with the adult population. In 1941, California adopted the Youth Corrections Authority Act, which created a commission dealing exclusively with juvenile offenders, authorized funding for the newly formed California Youth Corrections Authority (later the California Youth Authority), and delinquency prevention was highlighted as a key goal. Within the next two years, the management of state reformatories (Preston School of Industry, Ventura School for Girls, and Fred C. Nelles School for Boys) was transferred to the Youth Authority, as was the responsibility of delinquency prevention, which had been relegated to the State Probation Office.

During this dynamic time for juvenile justice, new facilities were established state-wide as subsidies were paid to counties for establishing homes, ranches, and camps for juvenile wards. In Sonoma County, the Youth Authority acquired the California Pythian Home for a new girl's facility, and the grounds and buildings were renovated using labor from the CYA's Preston School of Industry and Calaveras Big Tree Camp.

The existing buildings at Los Guilicos were ideal for the State to set up a school for girls based on the "cottage plan," one of two common designs for institutions such as prisons, hospitals, and orphanages during the late 19th and 20th centuries. As opposed to the more prevalent "congregate plan," the cottage plan favored rural rather than urban settings, and featured a number of small "cottages" rather than a single, imposing edifice. With support from social reform groups the cottage plan became the standard during the 20th century, and many were set up with a surrogate "parent" or "parents" living in the cottages to further a home-like atmosphere. This plan was considered especially applicable for delinquent girls who would have the opportunity to learn and practice domestic skills. Leading into the 20th century, the importance of housekeeping, and especially cooking, was stressed by Adina Mitchell, then-President of the Board of Trustees of the Whittier State School in an address to the Congress of the National Prison Association:

The aim of the management of the Whittier State School is to train the girls to be practical housekeepers. And as, above all, a good housekeeper must know how to cook, too much cannot be done to impart knowledge in the art of cookery; for it is not extravagant to say if we had more competent cooks there would be less drunkenness, unhappy families, divorces and suicides, and fewer children in orphan asylums and institutions of reform, and I even venture to say that in the populations of insane asylums and prisons there would be a decided decrease [Mitchell 1899].

Initially, Los Guilicos housed between 100 and 110 girls in the former Knights of Pythias dormitories. The old dining hall and kitchen were put to use as a training facility for domestic arts, and the Hood House was used for administration.

Resources Associated with Juvenile Justice. The resources associated with this context include juvenile halls, ranches, and camps.

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Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #:

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Date: December 2006

Property History

Los Guilicos Rancho

The Los Guilicos Rancho was granted to Juan (John) Wilson in 1839. Wilson, a sea captain from Scotland, married the widow, Ramona Carrillo de Pacheco, of the prestigious San Diego Carrillo family. The Wilson's resided in an adobe near Sonoma Creek, and raised cattle on their 13,330-acre rancho until 1850, when it was purchased by William Hood and William Pettit. Shortly after that, Hood took full ownership, and it was to him that the U.S. Lands Commission conveyed the grant patent in 1866. In the years preceding 1866, Hood and his wife, Eliza, were plagued with financial problems, and in 1868, the majority of the rancho lands were sold to pay off notes held in Hood's name. They then focused on raising horses, fruit and grain production, and established the Los Guilicos Winery. Reportedly, a three-story, stone winery, a wine cellar, and a distillery were built on the property circa 1861 (Hoover, Rensch, and Abeloe 1966:536).

At the turn of the 20th century, the property was in the hands of F.S. Wensinger, a real estate broker out of San Francisco. It was purchased by U.S. Senator Thomas Kearns of Utah and used as a retreat from 1905 to 1918 (Buhler 1997:8-6).

California Pythian Home

In 1924, the Knights of Pythias fraternal organization bought the Hood property to use as a retirement home for its older members. The Knights of Pythias is a fraternal organization founded in 1864 by Justus Henry Rathbone and others to promote the principals of friendship, charity, and benevolence. The Washington D.C.-based order followed the fundamental tenants of toleration in religion, obedience to law, and loyalty to government. The first California lodge of Pythians was organized in San Francisco in 1869, and the organization reached its peak in 1923 with over 31,000 members and 210 lodges in the state (Kennedy 1904:371-372, cited in Bransgrove 2002)

The Pythians built a one-story kitchen and dining room just behind the Hood House in 1924, and two dormitories were built nearby in 1925 and 1927. Located not far from the house was land dedicated as a cemetery for Knights of Pythias members (Buhler 1997).

The California Pythian Home served the needs of its elder members for nearly 20 years; but having reached its zenith during the 1920s, the order lost some 550,000 members nationwide by 1940 (Bransgrove 2002), and the need for retirement homes lessened. In 1943, the Knights of Pythias moved its residents from the California Pythian Home, and leased the property to Sonoma County for use as a juvenile home. The County bought the property outright the following year.

California School for Girls

The former Pythian Home became the California School for Girls in 1943. A brief history of the facility in the files of the California Youth Authority contained this description:

The Youth Authority was fortunate in being able to lease, in the late summer of 1943, the Pythian Old People's Home located in the Valley of the Moon in Sonoma County. The site, comprising 420 acres, was once part of the old Los Guilucos [sic] Spanish Grant of 19,000 acres. Facilities at the Old People's Home included the original ranch home, built in 1858, two dormitories, a dining room and kitchen built in 1926, and a few auxiliary and farm buildings. All of these buildings were in fairly good condition and the dormitories were well adapted for usage for a training school program [Anonymous 1949]

Between 1943 and 1949, the school had beds for 100 to 115 girls in the former Pythian dormitories. In the late 1940s plans for modern facilities were enacted, and the State Department of Public Works-Division of Architecture contracted with San Francisco architects, Harry A. Thomsen and Aleck L. Wilson. Included in plan were administration and detention buildings, a hospital, laundry, kitchen and dining room, dormitories, and cottages. Each of the five new dormitories had 40 rooms, a living area, supervisor's station, communal bathing and toilet rooms, and a laundry room. Construction of the new facility began in 1950 and was completed in 1954.

During the 1970s, Los Guilicos was converted to a boy's facility. Sonoma County has focused its youth delinquency and delinquency prevention programs at Los Guilicos, and recently constructed a new, 140,000-square-foot Juvenile Detention Facility adjacent to the former girl's school buildings. At present, the older buildings are vacant except for a few of the classrooms and recreation facilities. Hood House is a repository for some of the county's historical records.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #:

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Date: December 2006

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B10. Significance: (Continued)

Statement of Significance

Los Guilicos School for Girls

The Los Guilicos School for Girls was initially housed in the buildings of the California Pythian Home. During the 1950s, new buildings were erected and became the core of the school. These buildings were evaluated within the context of Juvenile Justice.

Under Criteria 1 and A, a resource must be associated with events that were significant on a broad scale at either the local, regional history, state, or national level. While the buildings constructed during the 1950s are associated with the theme of Juvenile Justice, they are not especially important representatives of that theme and do not meet Criteria 1 or A.

The 1950s buildings do not meet Criteria 2 or B because there is no direct link between them and any important people.

None of the 1950s buildings are architecturally distinguished and Criteria 3 and C are not met.

None of the 1950s buildings meet Criteria 4 or D because they possess no intrinsic qualities that could answer questions or provide important information about our history.

Building Evaluation Summary

Name	Context	Criteria Met
Administration	Juvenile Justice	None
Depaz	Juvenile Justice	None
Bonita (Cottage 2)	Juvenile Justice	None
Alegre (Cottage 1)	Juvenile Justice	None
Maintenance	Juvenile Justice	None
Sierra (Cottage 5)	Juvenile Justice	None
Bella (Cottage 4)	Juvenile Justice	None
Felice (Cottage 3)	Juvenile Justice	None
Classroom	Juvenile Justice	None
Gymnasium	Juvenile Justice	None
Auditorium	Juvenile Justice	None

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Recorded by: V. Beard

Primary #:
HRI #:
Trinomial:
Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus
Date:

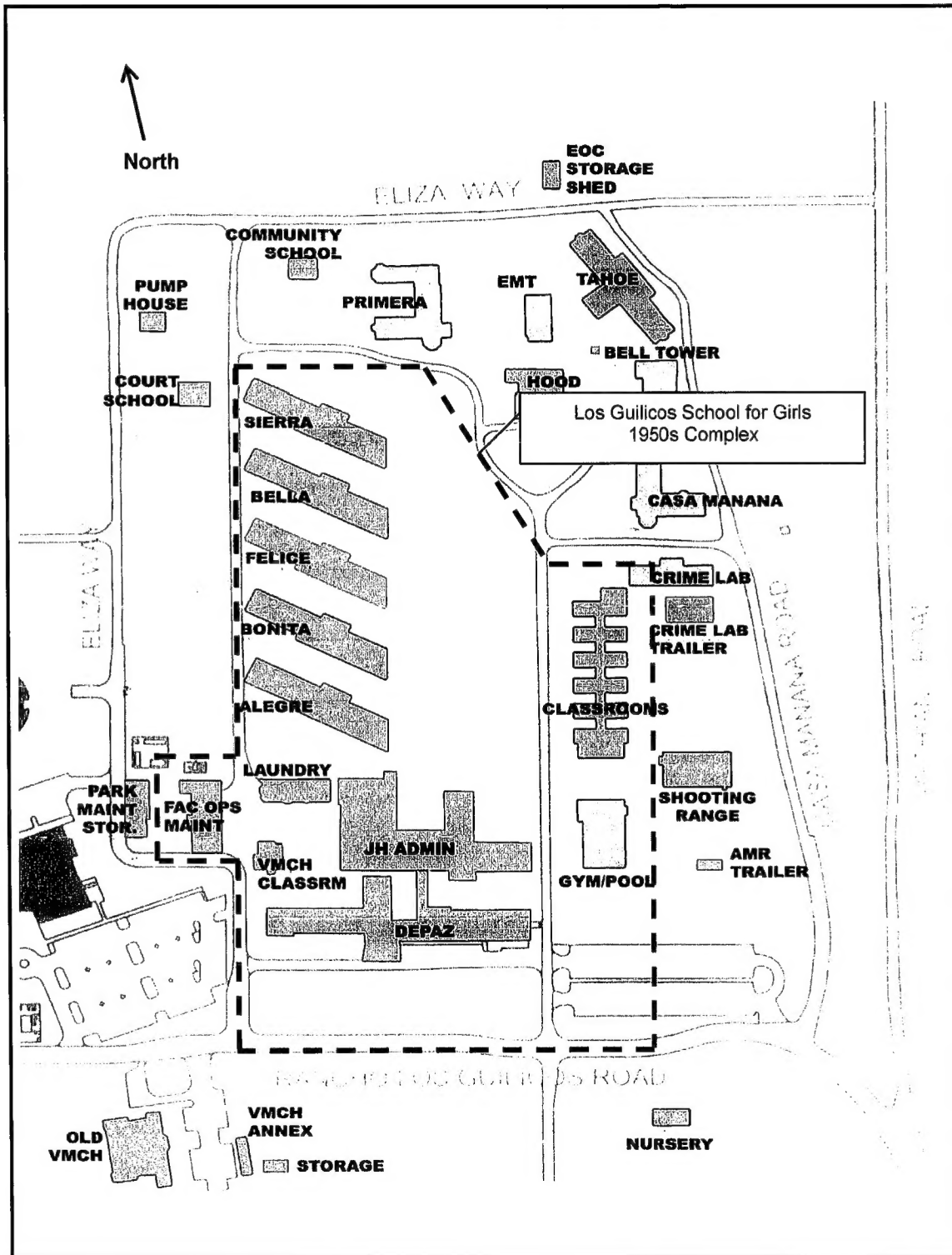


Figure 1. Layout of the Los Guilicos School for Girls.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Date:

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Recorded by: V. Beard

B12. References:

Bransgrove, S.

2002 *Toward a Fraternal History of Marin County: A Survey of Secret Societies being a General History of Various Fraternities and Their Specific Impact in Marin.* <<http://mill-valley.freemasonry.biz/marin-fraternities.htm>> (November 30, 2006).

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United States Bureau of Census

1930 Population Census for Sonoma County. Department of the Interior

LOCATION MAP

Page 9 of 9

Map Name: Kenwood

Scale: 7.5'

Primary #: P-

HRI #:

Trinomial:

Resource Name or #: Los Guilicos Campus

Date of Map: 1980

